

Weekly Views

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

Friday, January 2, 2008

"We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day." ~ Edith Lovejoy Pierce

A recent Camp Summit graduate, who's currently in the National Guard, visited the Student Christmas Party and spoke at an assembly about his experiences. Camp Summit crews also packed and loaded food baskets for the Salvation Army.

75 bicycles refurbished in Pendleton Correctional Facility's Shifting Gears operation were donated to the Salvation Army in Anderson, IN, and offenders assigned to the Wheels for the World program refurbished a wheelchair that will be sent to a 5-year-old girl with severe disabilities who lives in a remote village in Ukraine.

Staff members and offenders at Rockville Correctional facility participated in a joint holiday food drive over the past few weeks. The results included a monetary donation and bags of food being delivered to the Parke County Food Bank.

Employees from Eagle Magnetic Company in Indianapolis delivered Christmas presents to the student population at Indianapolis Juvenile Correctional Facility. The packages included a radio with ear-buds and snacks.

Miami Correctional Facility named 3 Employees of the Month for December. Carole Dibble was named Employee of the Month (non-custody), Officer Jeremy Brindle was named Custody Officer of the Month, and Lorna Harbaugh was named Supervisor of the Month.

The Indiana Women's Prison Vocational Laundry laundered sheets and blankets for the Red Cross.

Northeast Juvenile Correctional Facility held its first gingerbread house making contest for the students. The contest was a huge success and could become an annual holiday program.

Pendleton Correctional Facility donated 388 contraband cell phones, while Correctional Industrial Facility donated 53 cell phones, to Alternatives Incorporated of Madison County, a women's shelter for victims of domestic violence.

7 offenders from Miami Correctional Facility worked 17.5 hours unloading 2 semi-tractor trailers for the WWKI WE CARE wrap up action at the Johanning Civic Center. Offenders also helped set up tables and chairs.

Volunteers from the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility PLUS Unit delivered 49 gift boxes to residents of the Hutsonville, IL Heritage House Veterans Nursing Home. The gift boxes included offender-made quilts and other items.

In response to the needs of food pantries in Indianapolis, Parole District #3 staff conducted a food drive. The donated food was picked up by the Wheeler Mission. Staff also sponsored a family with 4 children for the Holiday season.

Staff at the Rockville Correctional Facility set a new facility record during a blood drive. 36 usable units were donated during the drive, which extended one hour longer than scheduled to accommodate those who chose to participate.

Correctional Industrial Facility staff delivered over 200 food items to the Gleaners Food Bank out of Muncie, IN.

Students of the Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility's CLIFF unit assisted the Salvation Army by unloading commodities trucks, preparing food and fruit baskets, and distributing the goods to needy families. Students also assisted the U.S. Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program by unloading, sorting, and packaging the toys for needy youth.

Pendleton Correctional Facility staff donated 20 pairs of children's gloves, 20 winter hats, 2 pairs of earmuffs, and 4 hat/glove sets to the Salvation Army in Anderson for distribution to needy children in Madison County.

Northeast Juvenile staff purchased winter clothes for 10 children from the Salvation Army Angel Tree.

Despite it being the day after Christmas, with horrific road conditions, 30 Westville Correctional Facility staff members volunteered to weather the elements and reported to work to make certain that the safe operations of the facility were not jeopardized. Superintendent Wilson is extremely proud of the staff who put the needs of the facility ahead of their own.

From the Office of Edwin G. Buss, Commissioner